

WATER & SEWER VILLAGE DISTRICT STUDY COMMITTEE
MINUTES – 7/20/04
By Mervin Newton

The Meeting of the above committee convened at 7:00 PM in the Milford Town Hall Auditorium. Present were Mervin Newton, Judy Plante, Wayne Hardy, and Bob Wisniewski (maybe interested in joining the committee). Later, Cindy Herman joined our meeting.

We received the resignation of David Quigley from our committee because of his change in employment. Dave will be missed as he was one of the organizers in getting the warrant article together for this committee, and he had attended some of the regional water district formation meetings as well.

The Minutes of our last meeting on June 22, 2004, as prepared by Dave Quigley, were reviewed and accepted.

We discussed the RSAs that apply to the formation and operation of a water and sewer village district.

Mervin Newton had obtained some preliminary information from the DPW including a map of the water and sewer lines in Milford, as well as the location of the wells and storage tanks.

Judy and Mervin then reported on their inquiries of several village districts in other communities. Mervin also attended a monthly meeting of the NH Assoc. of Village districts on July 12, 2004 in Plymouth, at which Merrimack, Loudon, Plymouth, Madison and Waterville Valley were represented, as well as a representative from the DRA.

The member districts at that meeting could not think of any drawbacks of having a village district. They were all very positive about having a village district so that the district can address the needs of the users as needs arise. There are also the benefits of having their own bonding capabilities for capital improvements and the ease of arranging payment plans for smaller water and sewer line extensions near existing lines. The districts present felt that greater control over the water and sewer by a village district is very important as it permits the commissioners to focus primarily on the water and sewer issues of the town rather than it being one of several departments of the town.

There are 90 or 91 village districts in New Hampshire, and 26 belong to the NHAVD. The village districts have (3) primary ways of raising their operating cash, those being user fees, property tax assessments, and a combination of both user fees and property taxes.

We will request representatives from the DPW to attend our next meeting on Tuesday, August 10, 2004, 7:00 p.m. in the Selectmen's Office.

Respectfully submitted.

Mervin Newton

/Water & Sewer Study Committee

WATER & SEWER VILLAGE DISTRICT COMMITTEE

NOTICE OF MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 10, 2004, 7:00 p.m. in the Selectmen's Office.